

ROLLING STONE
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MY 17 MONTHS ON THE CIA WATCH

A Backstage
Journal
By Daniel Schorr

In October 1974, I started investigating the government's intelligence agencies; by February 1976, they were back investigating me.

It all started with the idea of exposing scandals. Within 17 months, the American public was being told that the only real scandal was the exposing.

Under such circumstances, it is inevitable that the reporter will be dragged into the story he's covering. And I guess that's how I got caught in the secrecy backlash.

It was never my purpose to be an advocate or an adversary, but just to find out what was going on. Whatever others may think, I see myself as an aging, rather square reporter, who can't forget his old newspaper days while rattling around televisionland, where everybody seems to end up with some kind of Image.

I have watched, bemused, the image-making process, still not quite sure how it happens. I basically don't understand how I got to be on the Top 20 list of Nixon enemies, compiled before Watergate, or how later, not having Nixon to kick me around anymore, I found Richard Helms of the CIA calling me names.

It is slowly dawning on me that people in trouble may need medicine. The proper response is to clamp the lid back down and needs to point a finger at a Secretary.

That's how I got entangled in 17 months before agreed to write. The original suggestion was to keep developing congressional investigations, pull it all together as a kind of journal. I want to write about myself until I had been dragged into the story and might as well face it.

This foreword is written in late afternoon. The roof has fallen in because of the suppressed report of the House Select Committee on Intelligence. But the compiling journal started in a quieter time.

He has been called abrasive and so has the truth which Daniel Schorr cover during his 40-year career as a television journalist. Way before the less exposures of the Nixon administration enemy list status and brought it. Now, for the past 17 months, Schorr perhaps his most important and controversial story, uncovering the deeds at home and abroad and investigation of that activity. Do seamy tales that might never have his efforts. When he allowed to print his copy of the government-banned Pike report, Schorr was relieved of all reportorial duties by CBS. He has chronicled the events that led to this government

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